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Tongmyong People's School, Hwangju-gun,

Hwanghae-do

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- 1. Before the outbreak of the Korean war the Tongmyong People's School (approximately YC-540931) in Hwangju-gum (125-52, 38-44) (YC-4991) had twelve classes and employed thirteen teachers. When United Nations troops entered the Hwangju area, ten of these teachers went north with the North Korean army. In March 1951 when the North Koreans were again in control of the area, the school was reopened using civilian houses for class rooms and employing four teachers in addition to YT Won-pok (2621/0337/4395), the principal. YI was convicted of embezzling public funds and sentenced to 5 years at hard labor on 6 September 1951. He died in prison in January 1952. YI Ch'an-sok (2621/3605/6932), aged 27, a member of the North Korean Labor Party who had been educated at the Hwangju Agricultural Institute, became head of the school.
- 2. During the first year the school was reopened, sixteen teachers were hired and subsequently discharged from the school. Four of these teachers were arrested by the police on charges of anti-North Korean government activities while the United Nations troops occupied the Hwangju area. By April 1952 the personnel problem had been settled and seven teachers were permanently employed at the school. Six of these teachers were male and one was female. Although North Korean Cabinet Decision Number 288 issued on 4 June 1951 ordered that 60 percent of the teachers in people's schools be female, this order was not enforced in Hwangju because of the lack of qualified female teachers. The teachers at the Tongmyong People's School were between 19 and 27 years of age and had all finished middle school. Five teachers had less than 1 year of teaching experience and two had 2 years of experience. Five of the teachers were members of the North Korean Labor Party and regularly attended party indoctrination classes in April 1952. Beginning March 1952 each teacher received 600 grams of grain daily. Their monthly salary was approximately 1,000 North Korean won.

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- 3. The school was organized into the following departments under the principal:
 - a. Instruction Department, headed by CH OE Kyong-hi (1508/2529/3556). This department was in charge of discipline among the students and the formation of school regulations. All male students over the age of twelve were members of the youth group which was run by the instruction department under the direction of the county (gun) Democratic Youth Alliance. These boys were organized into seven squads of fifteen members each under IM Chin-ho (Oll7/6966/6964), a member of the instruction department. The youth group met once a month to be indoctrinated by local Communist officials and the squads met once a week to hold self-criticism discussions.
 - b. Education Department, headed by YI Hak-yong (2621/1331/3938). This department was in charge of the preparation of the curriculum and teacher efficiency reports. The department organized model teaching classes, which were held twice a month and in which the principal criticized the teaching methods of the instructors. Model teaching classes were held in the district (myon) every 3 months and in the county once a year.
 - c. The Accounting Department, headed by PAK Pyong-hun (2613/3521/0534). Each school submits an estimate of its budget to the county finance section, which in turn submits all its budgets to the North Korean cabinet for approval. The county finance section allocates money to each school monthly. The monthly budget for the Tongmyong People's School was as follows:

Teachers' salaries	8,000 won
Office expenses	800 won
Library expenses	50 won
Travel expenses	700 won
Social insurance	40 won
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Total

9,590 won

- d. The parents' association was headed by a chairman and a vice chairman elected from among the parents of the students.
- 4. There were about ninety students in each of the first four grades and sixty students in the fifth grade. Daily attendance, however, never averaged more than 70 percent of the students enrolled, both because parents feared their children might be caught at school during United Nations air raids and because of a general antagonism towards school work among the children. In order that education might continue in spite of United Nations air raids, North Korean Cabinet Decision Number 288 of 4 June 1951 ordered that no schools were to be operated within 8 kilometers of railroad lines and that each school was to have more than forty students. Schools closer than 8 kilometers were to be moved and their students taught in small classes.